

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-30

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FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4080

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 13598

EXDIS

NOFORN

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PINT, CB

SUBJECT: JAPANESE AMBASSADOR KURINO'S PLAN FOR BRINGING PEACE TO
CAMBODIA

REF: PHNOM PENH 12902/231242Z NOV 73

1. IN A CONVERSATION DECEMBER 6, NEW JAPANESE AMBASSADOR
OHTORI KURINO

DISCLOSED THAT HE HAD VOLUNTEERED FOR THE
EMBASSY AT PHNOM PENH "IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO BRING PEACE
ONCE AGAIN TO CAMBODIA", AND GAVE ME A DRAFT OF THE
PERSONAL PEACE PLAN HE IS DEVELOPING.

2. DRAFT READS AS FOLLOWS:

"1. A NEW CABINET, WHICH MAY BE CALLED 'THE PEACE
CABINET', SHALL BE INSTALLED WITH A LEADING
PERSONALITY AS THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO IS QUALIFIED
TO CARRY OUT THE FOLLOWING TASKS (HEREINAFTER
CALLED 'THE TASKS'):

A. TO MAKE CONTACTS WITH ANY PERSONS, GROUPS OR
PARTIES CONCERNED (HEREINAFTER CALLED 'THE
PARTIES') OF CAMBODIA,
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B. TO SOLICIT THE TALKS AND NEGOTIATIONS AMONG
THE PARTIES FOR THE PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE
CAMBODIAN PROBLEM, AND

C. TO ARRANGE FOR PROVIDING THE PARTIES WITH THE FACILITIES NECESSARY FOR THEIR TALKS OR NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE, THE DEMILITARIZED AND NEUTRAL AREAS, WHERE (1) THE REFUGEES AND EX-MILITARYMEN SHALL BE ALLOWED TO SETTLE IN AND ENGAGE IN PEACEFUL WORKS TO SUSTAIN THEMSELVES, (2) THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTIES SHALL BE ACCORDED FREE ACCESS AND THE FACILITIES NEEDED FOR BONA FIDE CONDUCTS FOR THEIR TALKS OR NEGOTIATIONS, AND FEEL ANY PERSON SEEKING AMNESTY SHALL BE PERMITTED TO STAY WITHOUT BEING ENDANGERED BY ANY PERSON OR AUTHORITY.

"2. THE NEW PRIME MINISTER SHALL BE ENTRUSTED WITH THE POWER TO NOMINATE AS MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET ANY PERSONS WHO HE DEEMS APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY FOR CARRYING OUT THE TASKS.

"3. THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC SHALL CONSIGN THE NEW PRIME MINISTER ALL THE POWERS NECESSARY FOR HIM TO CARRY OUT THE TASKS.

"4. THE ROUTINE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS SHALL BE HANDLED BY THE STAFFS OF THE RESPECTIVE MINISTRIES AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES.

"5. THE ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE OF THE REPUBLIC SHALL RENDER THEIR UTMOST COOPERATION TO THE PRIME MINISTER IN HIS CARRYING OUT THE TASKS, PROVIDED THAT THEY MAY BE PERMITTED TO TAKE MEASURES NECESSARY TO PROTECT THEMSELVES."

3. IN DISCUSSION THAT FOLLOWED, I POINTED OUT TO KURINO
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THAT HIS PLAN WOULD HAVE ONLY MARGINAL IMPACT ON THE ENEMY'S 154 PLUS BATTALIONS, BUT WOULD INVOLVE CHOPPING THE GKR INTO TWO PIECES, ONE SUEING FOR PEACE AND THE OTHER AT BEST AUTHORIZED "TO PROTECT ITSELF". I TOLD HIM I COULD THINK OF NOTHING BETTER CALCULATED TO BRING ABOUT THE PROMPT COLLAPSE OF NON-COMMUNIST RESISTANCE IN CAMBODIA.

4. COMMENT: KURINO APPEARS TO BE A DOGGED MAN, AND HIS PURSUIT OF SON-SANN-LIKE MANIPULATIONS CAN BECOME DANGEROUS. WE WILL TRY TO KEEP CLOSE TO HIM, AND THINK THAT NO INTERVENTION AT TOKYO LEVEL IS YET NECESSARY.
ENDERS

SECRET

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